(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission had sponsored an evaluation study on poverty alleviation programme in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the districts selected for the study and the criteria for the selection;

(c) the findings of the study;

(d) whether it is also a fact that banks were found to be indifferent to in providing credit to the poorest of the poor;

(e) if so, the number of beneficiaries who could not get the credit in sample districts; and

(f) how the Planning Commission proposes to overcome the problem of institutional lending to the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes Sir, the Planning Commission has granted a study titled' Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Andhra Pradesh—An Assessment' to the Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad.

(b) The three districts selected for the study Nalgonda, Anantapur and Vizianagaram represent the medium developed districts of each of the three geographical regions namely Coastal Andhra, Telangana and Rayalaseema.

(c) to (f) The Final Report of the Study has not been received in the Planning Commission.

Creation of Jobs in Tenth Plan

1762. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: (a) whether Government proposed to create five crore additional jobs during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that seventy per cent of population depends on agriculture and there is scarcity of land while two per cent of the population in U.S.A. depends on agriculture and where there is abundant land; and

(d) if so, the manner in which Government anticipate creation of more jobs in agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Planning Commission set up a Special Group on Targeting Ten Million Employment Opportunities per year over the Tenth Plan period under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. P. Gupta, Member (Labour, Employment & Manpower), Planning Commission to suggest strategies and programmes in the Tenth Plan for creating gainful employment opportunities for ten million people a year. The special Group submitted its report in May 2002. The Special Group has identified the labour intensive sectors, which should be developed to create employment opportunities. These sectors include agriculture, watershed development, on farm water management, small and medium industries, information technology, education and health services.

(c) and (d) The share of agriculture sector in total employment has been declining over the years. During the period 1983 to 1999-2000, this share declined from 63.3% to 56.7%. Within agriculture, it is proposed to raise the levels of income and employment by improving cropping intensity, encouraging growth of activities such as wasteland development, watershed development and by promoting, in general, a shift of agricultural production in favour of high value,more labour-intensive items such as horticulture, floriculture, medicinal plants, animal husbandry etc.

Failure of States during Ninth Five Year Plan

†1763. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States that failed to perform upto the mark in implementation of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the reasons for unsatisfactory performance by these States, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Statement indicating performance of States in respect of implementation of Ninth five Year Plan *viz.* percent of anticipated expenditure to revised outlay during the Ninth Plan is attached *(See* below*)*.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.